

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, XF
SUBJECT: UNTSO REPORT ON STATUS OF CEASE-FIRE IN ISRAEL-
LEBANON SECTOR

REF: JERUSALEM 592

1. AS ANTICIPATED IN REFTEL UNTSO MONTHLY REPORT FOR
FEBRUARY RELEASED AS UN DOCUMENT (S/11663/ADD.52) ON
MARCH 1 DESCRIBES IN DETAIL HARRASSMENTS AND THEFT OF UN
EQUIPMENT AND INDICATES WHETHER PERPETRATORS WERE
CHRISTIAN OR PALESTINIAN. BECAUSE OF SPECIAL NATURE OF
THIS REPORT AND HEIGHTENED ATTENTION TO SOUTH LEBANON,
MAJOR EXCERPTS FROM IT ARE REPRODUCED BELOW. FULL TEXT
POUCHED ALL ADDRESSEES.

"1. GROUND ACTIVITY WAS AT A MODERATE LEVEL AND
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AIR AND NAVAL ACTIVITY AT A LOW LEVEL DURING THE MONTH.
GROUND ACTIVITY OCCURRED MAINLY IN THE VICINITY OF OPS
LAB AND HIN (SOUTH-WESTERN PART OF LEBANON) AND CONCERNED
ISRAEL FORCES ROAD BUILDING AND MINE FIELD OPERATIONS.
UNTOS OPERATIONS CONTINUED TO BE HINDERED BY INCIDENTS
WITH DE FACTO FORCES INVOLVING VEHICLE HIJACKINGS, DENIAL
OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, ARMED THEFTS, FORCED ENTRY INTO

OPS, MINED ROADS AND SHOOTING AT OR INTO THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF OP OR OP RELIEF/LOGISTICS OPERATIONS.

"2. ISRAEL FORCES PERSONNEL CONTINUED TO OCCUPY SIX POSITIONS ON THE LEBANESE SIDE OF THE ARMISTICE DEMARCATION LINE (ADL) NEAR BORDER PILLARS 6 (AMR 1680-2770), 11 (AMR 1799-2788), 14 (AMR 1838-2734), 18 (AMR 1880-2740), 19 (AMR 1907-2749) AND 33 (AMR 2004-2904).

"3. THERE WERE TWO CASES OF FIRING ACROSS THE ADL OR ACROSS THE LINE BETWEEN LEBANESE TERRITORY AND ISRAEL-OCCUPIED SYRIAN TERRITORY. THERE WERE 36 CROSSING VIOLATIONS." (NOTE: DETAILS OF INCIDENTS FOLLOW, DEALING MAINLY WITH SHALLOW PENETRATIONS INTO LEBANON BY SMALL (10-20 MEN) GROUPS OF ISRAELI FORCES, SOME FOR ROAD AND FENCE REPAIR/CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES.)

"4. THERE WERE 13 OVERFLIGHTS REPORTED DURING THE PERIOD. OVERFLIGHTS BY ISRAEL FORCES JET AIRCRAFT WERE REPORTED ON 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 24 AND 27 FEBRUARY (ONE EACH DAY) AND ON 4, 20 AND 28 FEBRUARY (TWO EACH DAY).

"5. WITH REFERENCE TO PARAGRAPH 1, THERE WERE, DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 14 UNTSO VEHICLES HIJACKED, 33 FORCED ENTRIES INTO OPS IN WHICH THEFT OF UNITED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NATIONS EQUIPMENT AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS OF OBSERVERS OCCURRED ON 17 OCCASIONS AND 6 SHOOTINGS INTO THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF OPS OR OP LOGISTIC/RELIEF OPERATIONS BY DE FACTO FORCES IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. TWELVE VEHICLE HIJACKINGS, 30 FORCED ENTRIES INTO THE OPS AND 4 SHOOTING INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN AREAS ASSUMED TO BE CONTROLLED BY THE CHRISTIAN DE FACTO FORCES. THE REMAINDER, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A STOLEN VEHICLE IN BEIRUT, OCCURRED IN AREAS ASSUMED TO BE CONTROLLED BY PALESTINIAN ELEMENTS. SINCE 1 JULY 1977 TO 28 FEBRUARY 1978, THERE HAVE BEEN APPROXIMATELY 236 INCIDENTS WITH DE FACTO FORCES IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT 159 OF THE INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN CHRISTIAN-CONTROLLED AREAS AND THE REMAINDER, 77, IN PALESTINIAN-CONTROLLED AREAS OR BEIRUT." YOUNG

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